GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5907
ANSWERED ON:04.05.2005
PRE-NATAL & POST-NATAL DEATHS
Singh Shri Dushyant

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that there has been increase in the incidents of pre-natal and post-natal deaths of infants and mother in the country ;

(b) if so, the number of cases reported from various States during the last three years, till date ;

(c) whether any effort is being taken by the Government to promote the health of mother and child ;

(d) if so ,the details thereof ; and

(e) the overseas assistance received for the mother and child health care in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) & (b): The Registrar General of India does not provide data on the incidence of prenatal and postnatal deaths of infants. However, under the Sample Registration System of the Registrar General of India (RGI), data is provided for perinatal mortality and infant mortality rates.

Perinatal mortality is defined as the death in the perinatal period i.e. from 22 completed weeks of gestation to 7 completed days after birth for every 1000 births during a year. The Perinatal Mortality Rate of India as estimated under the Sample Registration Scheme of RGI has declined from 42 per 1000 births in 1998 to 35 in 2002.

Infant Mortality Rate is the number of deaths of children 0-11 months of age per 1000 live births in a given year. The Infant Mortality Rate of India as estimated under the Sample Registration Scheme of RGI has declined from 72 in 1998 to 63 in 2002.

The maternal mortality rate is defined as the number of deaths of women while pregnant or within 42 days of termination of pregnancy per 100,000 live births in a given year. The Maternal Mortality Rate of India was estimated under the Sample Registration Scheme of RGI as 407 in 1998. Estimates for this rate are not available from RGI after 1998.

(c)& (d): The Reproductive and Child Health Programme is under implementation in all States and UTs of the countries since 1997. A number of interventions are being implemented for improving the maternal and child health and bringing down mortality rates as part of this programme.

The interventions for improving maternal health are essential obstetric care, emergency obstetric care, referral transport for pregnant women with complication of pregnancy through Panchayat, provision of drugs and equipments at First Referral Units (FRUs), provision of contractual staff like additional Auxiliary Nurse Midwife (ANMs), staff nurses and hiring of anesthetists. In the second phase of the RCH Programme, provision has been made to accelerate the decline of Maternal Mortality and Morbidity by introducing new interventions like operationalisation of First Referral Units (FRUs), providing 24-hour delivery and new born care services at Community Health Centers (CHCs) and Primary Health Centers (PHCs) and training of ANM and LHV to become skilled birth attendants.

For reducing child and infant mortality, the interventions include immunization against six vaccine preventable diseases, control of deaths due to diarrhoeal diseases, control of deaths due to Acute Respiratory Infections, eradication of polio, prophylaxis against blindness due to Vitamin A deficiency and essential new born care. As part of the second phase of RCH Programme, the Integrated Management for Newborn and Childhood Illnesses will be implemented in the districts in a phased manner.

(e) External Assistance received for Reproductive and Child Health programme and immunization strengthening project is placed at Annexure-I.

Annexure-I

Details of External Assistance for Reproductive and Child Health Programme and Immunization strengthening Project

Agency	1997-98	1998-99	99-2000	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	Total

World Bank	0.00	22.89	180.32	123.13	258.47	151.05	132.52	296,36	1164,74
EC	0.00	74.46	86.57	0.00	110.81	156.31	103.49	380.27	911.91
DFID	74.90	78.00	136.59	143.96	136.76	148.75	185.00	168.00	1071.96
Kfw	0.00	97.00	61.04	0.00	0.00	50.00	42.00	-	230.64
UNICEF	73.00	70.00	30.00	39.00	57.29	124.74	151.91	96.13	642.07
Total	147.90	342.35	495.12	306.09	563.33	630.85	614.92	940.76	4041.32

External Assistance for Pulse Polio Immunization (out of Immunization Strengthening Project)

Agency	1997-98	1998-99	99-2000	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	Total
World Bank	0.00	0.00	0.00	119.88	112.77	169.91	379.76	443.95	1226.27
Total Assistance (A)+(B)	147.90	342.35	495.12	425.97	676.10	800.76	994.68	1384.71	5267.59